loans in rural areas to promote conversion of these mud homes to brick and mortar (pucca) homes;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) According to the information made available by 2001 Census, 11.651 million households are living in unserviceable temporary houses in rural areas.

(b) to (d) Under Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY), the Ministry of Rural Development is providing financial assistance amounting to Rs. 25,000/- per unit in plain areas and Rs. 27,500/- in hilly/difficult areas, to the BPL rural poor for construction of a new dwelling unit or for replacement of an existing unserviceable temporary house. However, the District Rural Development Agencies (DRDAs) can utilize up to 20% of the total funds available under IAY, for upgradation of existing unserviceable temporary house or under Credit-cum-Subsidy Scheme for construction of a house with credit from banks/financial institutions. Rural households having an annual income of upto Rs. 32,000/- can avail of the facility under Credit-cum-Subsidy Scheme. Ceiling of subsidy under the scheme is Rs. 12,500/- per household and the balance amount has to be arranged by way of loan not exceeding Rs. 50,000/- in each case from banks/financial institutions.

Motorable roads in hilly and tribal villages

†1006. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several roads in Almora District in Uttaranchal are 10-15 years old but still they have not been metalled and made motorable;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of roads which would be metalled and made motorable in that district in the year 2006 under plan for linking of villages in hilly and tribal areas with roads; and

(d) by when the Kutcha road from Dwarahaat to Doula in that district would be made motorable?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Rural Development implements the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana

in all the States including Uttaranchal for providing all-weather road connectivity to habitations having population 250 and above. Under Bharat Nirman, all habitations in Uttaranchal having population of 500 and above have been targeted for providing connectivity by the year 2009. The rural roads in the Core Network of the district alone are eligible for coverage under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY). The proposals are to be initiated by the State Government, which is responsible for executing the works after obtaining the approval of the Ministry of Rural Development.

(d) The Uttaranchal Rural Road Development Agency has intimated that the kutcha road from Dwarahaat to Doula in that district is not in the Core Network.

Schemes for self-employment of fishermen in AP

1007. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that fishing sector contributes 25 per cent of GDP and the Andhra Pradesh, with a coast line of 974 kms. 20 coastal mandal and 180 fishermen villages make a significant contribution in national income from marine products, exports; and

(b) if so, the steps taken so far and those proposed to be taken to ameliorate the lot of fishermen in the country, particularly in Andhra Pradesh, including various schemes introduced so far for creation of self-employment in fishing sector and to provide infrastructure facilities to the fishing sector in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) and (b) The contribution of fisheries sector to total GDP is 1.04% as per the figure of 2004-05. The Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture has conducted Marine Fisheries Census in 2005 and as per the report, the State of Andhra Pradesh has coastline of 974 km., 314 fish landing centres, 498 fishing villages and about 5.09 lakh people depend on marine fisheries as a source of livelihood.

Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture implements following schemes for the development of Fisheries Sector in the country including the State of Andhra Pradesh:

(1) Development of Marine Fisheries Infrastructure and Post-harvest operation.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.